

# *FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH*

403 WASHINGTON STREET  
WATERTOWN, NEW YORK 13601  
315-782-1750

March 13, 2022

10:00 a.m.



*“Return of The Prodigal,” Grace Carol Bomer, 2008*

## **A Word About Today’s Service**

Grace Carol Bomer’s *Return of The Prodigal* is a masterwork among the many depictions of this beloved parable. Using new and antique gold leaf, Bomer covered scarlet-painted panels of wood, over which she layered, then scratched away, various colors of paint to create the work’s background movement. Using the front page of a magazine depicting a father kissing the forehead of his cancer-serving daughter, Bomer illustrates the good news of God’s grace for Prodigal Sons and Prodigal Daughters. Tattooed on the Prodigal’s arm are the words, “I am my beloveds and my beloved is mine,” from Song of Songs 2:16.

Floating between the two characters are three Hebrew letters that form the root of the word *shaddai*, meaning ‘almighty,’ and one of the myriad names used for God in the Hebrew Scriptures. Could this indicate to us what happens when we forgive and love one another unconditionally? Is God present and visible in those moments? The Prodigal Son sure thought so.

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

\* Indicates that those who are able may stand.

## GATHERING

### Gathering Music

Carl Bingle, FPC Organist  
Anna Laura Page

#### Three Lenten Spirituals

*Balm in Gilead, What Wondrous Love Is This?*

*Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley*

*My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

arr. Hughes

### Pastor's Greeting and Words of Welcome

### Prelude

*Adagio and Trio*

J. Perks

*The large white candle on the communion table was lit on Ash Wednesday to honor the people of Ukraine and Russia during this time of conflict. During the prelude, you are invited to offer personal prayers to God or you may use the prayer printed here:*

To your name, Lord Jesus, help me to  
bow the knee and all it's worshipping,  
bow the head, and all its thinking,  
bow the will, and all its choosing,  
bow the heart, and all its loving. Amen.

### \*Call to Worship (Psalm 116)

Leader: I love the Lord, because he has heard my voice and my supplications.

People: **Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.**

The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold of me;  
I suffered distress and anguish.

**Then I called on the name of the Lord: 'O Lord, I pray, save my life!'**

Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful.

**The Lord protects the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me.**

**Return, O my soul, to your rest, for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.**

### \*Opening Hymn #328

*In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

### \*Prayer of the Day

### Confession of Sin from *The Anglican Church of Canada*

Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.**

## Musical Meditation

### *Create in Me a Clean Heart*

Keith and Melody Green

= 120 D7 G D C G

1. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, o God, and re-new a right

7 D G C D G D

spir - it with-in me. Cre - ate in me a clean heart,

12 C G D G G7

o God, and re-new a right spir - it with-in me.

18 C D C D G D G G7 C

Cast me not a - way from Thy pre-sence, o Lord, and take not Thy

23 D G G7 C D B7 Em

Ho - ly Spir-it from me. Re - store un-to me the joy of Thy sal - va-tion,

30 C D G

and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

Detailed description: This is a musical score for a hymn in G major, 4/4 time, with a tempo of 120. The score is written for a single melodic line with guitar chords indicated above. The lyrics are: '1. Create in me a clean heart, o God, and re-new a right spir - it with-in me. Create in me a clean heart, o God, and re-new a right spir - it with-in me. Cast me not a - way from Thy pre-sence, o Lord, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir-it from me. Re - store un-to me the joy of Thy sal - va-tion, and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.' The score is divided into six systems, each with a measure number (1, 7, 12, 18, 23, 30) and a key signature of one sharp (F#).

## Assurance of Pardon

Merciful God, grant to your faithful people pardon and peace,  
that we may be cleansed from all our sins  
and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## A Time With Young Disciples

Hymn: *Bless These Children, Lord, We Pray*

(to the tune of "Seek Ye First", words by Andrew Long)

***Bless these children, Lord, we pray; and walk with them every day.***

***Teach us to hear them and cherish what they say:***

***Children will show us the way.***

## THE WORD OF GOD

### Prayer For Illumination

#### Anthem

##### *The Power of The Cross*

Townend and Getty, arr. Hayes

O to see the dawn of the darkest day;  
Christ on the road to Calvary.  
Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten then  
nailed to a cross of wood.  
This the pow'r of the cross:  
Christ became sin for us.  
Took the blame, bore the wrath;  
We stand forgiven at the cross.  
Now the daylight flees;  
Now the ground beneath quakes as its Master bows His head.  
Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life,  
"Finished!" the vict'ry cry. This the pow'r of the cross:  
Christ became sin for us. Took the blame, bore the wrath;  
we stand forgiven at the cross. This the pow'r of the cross:  
Son of God, slain for us. O to see my name written in the wounds,  
for through Your suff'ring I am free. Death is crushed to death,  
life is mine to live, won through Your selfless love!  
This the pow'r of the cross: Son of God, slain for us.  
What a love, what a cost! We stand forgiven at the cross.

#### **The Scripture Lesson ~ Luke 15:11-32 (KJV)**

And he said, A certain man had two sons:

And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me.  
And he divided unto them his living.

And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living.

And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want.

And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.

And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.

And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!

I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee,

And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.

And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.

And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.

But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet:

And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry:

For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.  
Now his elder son was in the field: and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard musick and dancing.

And he called one of the servants, and asked what these things meant.

And he said unto him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound.

And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and intreated him.

And he answering said to his father, Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment: and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends:

But as soon as this thy son was come, which hath devoured thy living with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf.

And he said unto him, Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine.

It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found.

This is the Word of The Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Sermon

“Welcome Home, Part. 2: Older Brother Syndrome”

Rev. Dr. Andrew Philip Long

## Hymn #139

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

## Affirmation of Faith from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

Let us say what we believe:

**We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.**

**In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God’s image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.**

**But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.**

**ignoring God’s commandments. we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God’s condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.**

**In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage.**

Loving us still,

**God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still. Amen.**

## **We Respond To God**

## Community Connect

*At this time in worship we share information on how you can connect even better with the community at FPC Watertown. During this time we also share our joys and concerns, as well as any other relevant information to our life together.*

## Offering



Donations can be made by either scanning the QR code from the Venmo app or by searching for [@First\\_Pres\\_of\\_Watertown](#).

## Offertory

*Come Home*

Clancy Cox, soloist; Carl Bingle, organ

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,

Calling for you and me. See, on the portals He’s

Waiting and watching, Watching for you and for me.

Raymond Brown

**Refrain:**

Come home; come home. You who are weary, come home.  
Earnestly, tenderly Jesus is calling, Calling, "O sinner, come home!"

Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading,  
Pleading for you and for me? Why should we linger and  
heed not His mercies, Mercies for you and for me?

**Refrain**

Time is now fleeting; the moments are passing,  
Passing from you and from me. Shadows are gathering;  
Death's night is coming, Coming for you and for me.

**Refrain**

O for the wonderful love He has promised,  
Promised for you and for me! Though we have sinned, He has  
Mercy and pardon, Pardon for you and for me.

**Refrain**

**\*Closing Hymn #712**

*Be Still My Soul*

**A Time of Remembrance**

on the two-year anniversary of COVID-19 lockdowns

**\*Blessing and Benediction**

**\*Passing The Peace of Christ**

The Peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

Please safely share some sign of  
Christ's peace with your neighbor.

*During this time of public concern over health and wellness, please be respectful of those who may want to avoid physical contact while share The Peace; flashing the 'peace sign' is a perfectly appropriate way to share Christ's peace. 'Fist bumps,' 'elbow bumps,' or slick dance moves can also extend Christ's peace to your neighbors.*

This morning's **Radio Broadcast** is a gift in loving memory of **Patricia McWayne** from her husband, Frederick; daughter, Shane; son, Shawn; and daughter-in-law, Kathy.

There will be a **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING on Sunday, March 27, 2022**  
for the purpose of ordaining and installing Elders and Deacons.

*Happy Birthday to:*

March 13	Eugene Hayes
March 14	Alice LeRoy
March 17	Ken Thompson
March 18	Jason Rudd
March 18	Aiden Thomas
March 19	Rebecca Brown

*We Pray for...*

William, Steven, Jonathan, Nora, Tyler, Grace, Sam & Ruth, Mary Lynn, Midwest Tornado Victims, Josh L., Deanne, Mary, Gini, Tom, Linda & Ken, Shane, Ed, Millie, Gerda, Jamie, Annie, Peru Community Church, Northern New York Presbytery, Synod of The Northeast, the sick, all essential workers, students & teachers, medical professionals, all serving in the military, peace & justice, all people in positions of power & leadership.



# Welcome Home

LENT AT FIRST PRES. WATERTOWN

**THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**  
**Next Sunday, March 20th**

10:00 a.m. - "Welcome Home, Part 3: What Greater Love?"  
Sunday School and Childcare during worship

**All Women of the church** are invited to the monthly gathering of **PW of Jefferson County** on **Thursday, March 24th** in the **Fellowship Hall of First Pres.** The meeting will begin at **11:00 a.m.** and lunch will follow at **12 noon.** Bring your own sandwich, if you like. Soup and dessert will be provided. Please come to see what we are up to!

## THIS WEEK

"The Chosen" - Episode 4 - TODAY, 11:45 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Staff Meeting - Tuesday, March 15th, 12 noon

Men's Breakfast - Wednesday, March 16th, 7:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Bible Study Discussion on "The Chosen" - Wednesday, March 16th, 6:00 p.m., FH

Session Meeting - Thursday, March 17th, 5:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Adult Handbell Rehearsals - Thursday, March 17th, 6:30 p.m.

Chancel Choir Rehearsal - Thursday, March 17th, 7:30 p.m.

"The Chosen" - Episode 5 - Next Sunday, March 20th, 11:45 a.m., Room 6

'Open Table' Take out Dinner - Next Sunday, March 20th, 5:00-6:00 p.m., FH

## **ORCHESTRA OF NNY CONCERT**

**SUNDAY, April 3, 2022**

**3:00 p.m.**

**Watertown First Presbyterian Church Sanctuary**

**Purchase tickets at [onny.org](http://onny.org) or at the door**

### **CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:**

Sue will be on vacation next week

Church Office will be open Monday, March 14th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday thru Friday: you may call Pastor Andrew at 410-916-1673 to schedule a time to come in!

# The Open Table

"O taste and see that the Lord is good!"—Psalm 34:8

On Sunday, March 20th, FPC Watertown is pleased to welcome the community to **The Open Table!** *The Open Table* is a no-cost, no-strings-attached, homemade meal lovingly prepared by members of the church. Macaroni and cheese, vegetables and fruit will be served at the Parking Lot Door (look for the signs) for take-out and all are welcome!

*Church volunteers will be needed on March 20th to direct traffic, package and hand out meals, greet guests, & clean-up.*

**LOOK FOR THE SIGN-UP SHEET IN FELLOWSHIP HALL!**



As the violence in Ukraine continues, the number of people being displaced internally and fleeing to neighboring countries increases by the day. And in the midst of the chaos, there are sibling churches and ecumenical partners who are already providing assistance with basic items for survival.

**FPC Watertown is committed to helping those in need through prayer, action, and giving!**

**Prayer:** May we undergird our prayers with tangibles resources to help. May we reach deeply, give generously, and welcome extravagantly. May we lift our voices in a strong and unified advocacy. May we all, even as we breathe in lament, breathe out mercy, hope, and peace.

**Action:** Urge the U.S. government to support generous aid for refugees and civilians suffering in Ukraine, and call for engaging a diplomatic solution to the conflict.

**Give:** On March 27 during worship a special collection will be taken to support the work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and their affiliate in easing the suffering of those most effected by the crisis in Ukraine. FPC's Session has approved \$3500 in funds to match the gifts given by the congregation. We ask that you contribute either with cash or a check made payable to FPC Watertown. You may also mail your gift to the church.

This service is being broadcast over radio station **WATN 1240**,  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/watertownfpc](https://www.facebook.com/watertownfpc), and  
Livestreamed from our website: [www.watertownfirstpres.org](http://www.watertownfirstpres.org)